



Will Carleton Academy

2001 W. Hallett Rd, Hillsdale, MI 49242 • 517-437-2000 • WillCarletonAcademy.com • Tuition-Free K-12

October 9, 2023

Dear Will Carleton Academy Families,

Happy Monday! Seems like we might have fall-like temperatures all week and as mentioned in previous mailers, nighttime temps are making Opening Ceremony chilly in the mornings. Please send those light jackets for Opening Ceremony to allow the students to be comfortable while standing at the flag.

Included in your mailer today are spring and fall testing results and parent reports. K-8th are in mailers and 9th-12th were mailed last Friday. Take a look and if you have any questions, I am happy to review these with you. The faculty and our MTSS Team, lead by Mrs. Rogers, spend time with these reports to be sure that all WCA students are receiving the support that they need. Communication is part of that recipe for success, so be sure to reach out if you have questions.

The Reverse Raffle is almost here! I hope this Parent Forum event is on your calendar for the 21st as it is one that makes memories for sure! If you are new to WCA, please know that we welcome all to this fundraising event. Please know that if you can't make the event this Saturday, October 21st at Johnny T's, you need not be present to win, so buying a ticket to show your support to the Parent Forum is a very viable option. We will call you if you win something! Please let the office know if you need a ticket or, be looking for a Parent Forum Executive Board Member walking through the pick-up line to make it super convenient for all who plan to purchase a ticket. And, please send in the themed basket items for your child(ren)'s class basket by Friday of this week. The themes are listed below for your convenience:

K- Sports and Balls

1st - Christmas

2nd - Chocolate!

3rd - Ice Cream!

4th - Family Movie Night

5th - Game Night

6th - Art-y Party

7th - Cozy Comfort

8th - Infant/Baby Basket

9th - Outdoors (hunting/camping)

10th - Snacks

11th - All Things Fall

12th - Halloween

Exploration Program- Rainy Day

Next week brings the end of our first quarter and an early dismissal on Friday, October 20th. The teachers will spend the afternoon working on report cards and planning for the second quarter. Please plan to pick up your child(ren) at 11:40 am next Friday. A little gift of some extra weekend time for you all when you add the fact that we will not have classes on Monday, October 23rd as well! A little fall break I'd say!

As the first quarter ends, things like homework and behavior expectations are settling in. Please work with your child to help them have a deeper understanding of why these two sets of expectations remain high on campus each day. Our TO DO LIST each day is long and detailed and requires all assignments to be current and behavior distractions to be non-existent. The beautiful thing about this is when the children arrive to campus, even the smallest moments of achievement can be celebrated! Every nugget of information is necessary to move to the next curriculum item and therefore all students have the same opportunity to excel! This is certainly a recipe for success!

Most uniform pieces have arrived to campus and to homes. Please be sure that all children are in WCA's uniform khaki and hunter, plaid and blazers. I love a good GAP khaki or Lands End hunter polo, but those are not part of our uniform code! Please communicate with me if there is an obstacle to you securing the correct uniform pieces; we definitely have a plan for that! I will begin making phone calls to families to see if help is needed to secure official uniform pieces. Please know that being in uniform is so important for all students.

I must also use my communication platform to mention the speed and careless driving that continues to happen during drop-off and pick-up. PLEASE understand that as parents of WCA students you all owe each other the respect of carefully paying attention while driving on campus. As soon as you enter either driveway, PLEASE stop cell-phone use and pay the closest attention to the details of this process. SLOW speed is expected of everyone while on campus. During drop-off, please pull all the way up to the farthest available spot on the loading sidewalk. This will help keep the process flowing. That is an expectation. During pick-up, following the faculty team's directions while paying attention is the expectation. During both processes, speed must not exceed a safe speed; that obvious detail seems to escape some drivers as I continue to receive reports of careless driving. There is no passing or pulling out of line to leave once you have dropped off or loaded; you must wait in line for all cars to exit the lane. Do not drop children off at non-designated areas as no one is expecting this and an accident may occur. These are non-negotiables! I appreciate all who take this time on campus as serious as it is. I am grateful for all who adhere to the long-standing procedures of drop-off and pick-up. If reports continue to reach my office, I will be making calls to the repeat offenders. Everyone should want all students safe; let's be a champion for campus safety!

The office has been giving lots of cups for drinking throughout the day to many students. Please work at home to include packing a water bottle into the daily routine. The water bottle fillers are up and working well, yet we still have the drinking fountains not accessible to all on campus. Thank you for this support!

All students have been reminded to keep their cell phones off until they get into vehicles after dismissal. That long-standing policy seems to need a reminder every once in a while. Even during the few minutes that the students wait for loading into cars during dismissal, the distraction of cell phones are proving detrimental. I appreciate your support with this reminder.

Please communicate with the office when your child is not feeling well. It is important that we work together to keep all safe and healthy during our school week. When common sense prevails, together we can make a difference for all! Have a great week!

Be well,

Colleen A. Vogt